

# THE EVENING FARMER

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C. A. MENET, Representative.



SATURDAY, AUGUST 28, 1901.

## PROCESSION OF HARBOR

### LINE BLUNDERS

The harbor line question has taken on a new phase. In effect, it is a matter of involved and complicated questions, which can only, to all appearances, be cleared up by the courts at the close of such protracted and costly litigation as has heretofore been conducted by Mayor Lee.

On June 7th of this year, the Board of Aldermen adopted, by a vote of 14 to 3, the report of a special committee, appointed to discontinue the existing city harbor line and to lay out a new line. The resolutions embodied in that report "disestablished the present city harbor line on the west side of the Pequonnock river, extending south from Stratford avenue," and "designated and establish a harbor line on the west side of Bridgeport harbor and the Pequonnock river."

From Stratford avenue to the outer harbor, said harbor line being designated and established in exact coincidence with the U. S. harbor line approved by the War Department on Nov. 13, 1898, and being in accordance with the particular description hereinafter contained, etc.

Thus follows "the particular description" which in very technical terms defines the line from the Stratford avenue bridge southerly

to a point 60 feet northeasterly of the inner beacon, thence southerly on a line parallel with a line joining center of inner and outer beacons, and the foot northeasterly and at right angles thereto to the center of the inner breakwater, thence westerly to the southeasterly end of Main street.

This resolution is self-contradictory upon an important point. First, it disestablishes a harbor line "in exact coincidence with the U. S. harbor line," which line extends beyond the outer beacon and nearly to the light-house; then, it establishes another line coincident with the government line to a point apparently between the inner and outer beacons, and thence diverging from the government line to run along the foot of Main street. That is, the resolution, while purporting to establish one city harbor line, really establishes two, and these conflict with each other.

Under the first line, the Locomobile Co. would acquire about a dozen acres of water area which it previously endeavored to obtain but was unsuccessful.

With this basis of facts, it is readily seen that serious legal questions come up. Can the Board of Aldermen rescind its resolutions of June 7th, which were legally adopted and received Mayoral approval? Undoubtedly, it can do so, but its action of June 7th gave rights to the Locomobile Company, which cannot be taken away without compensation. This is made certain by the action of the General Assembly, taken at the instance of the city, relative to damages in such cases, and which was strongly opposed by the Farmer. The Aldermen can rescind and amend, but at a cost of the increased value of the 12 or the 24 acres granted by the first and second lines, respectively. With regard to the water area fronting Seaside Park, the city should be willing to pay what over damages might be awarded.

A second legal question is whether resolutions establishing divergent harbor lines can be considered valid, or shall be regarded as void and of no effect—in other words, can there legally be two contradictory city harbor lines? If valid, the courts must be asked to decide which of the two shall obtain; if void, not only the 12 or 24 acres granted to the Locomobile Company but also the 11 or 12 acres granted to the railroad company, revert to the city.

To a layman, it would seem that the resolutions are void and of no effect, but the lawyers and the courts may reach a different conclusion. They may hold that the city line is legal only so far as it exactly coincides with the government line.

Certainly, the Lee administration has gotten the city into a most unhappy and probably costly snarl. In fact, the treatment of this harbor line question has been a succession of blunders, and not the least of them is the action of June 7th.

## Feast of St. Augustine

Tomorrow is the Feast day of St. Augustine and will be celebrated with appropriate services at St. Augustine's church. Rev. Father Augustine of the Order of the Friar Preachers from St. Vincent's priory, New York, will preach the sermon of the day at the altar at 10:30 o'clock. Rev. Father O'Meara will be the celebrant. Father O'Meara as sub-celebrant. Father Augustine will take the offertory. The Life of St. August-

# PORTABLE SHOWER BATHS

How the Children of Baltimore's Tenement District Are Kept Cool and Clean During the Hot Months

T. M. Beadenkoff,  
Secretary Free Public Bath Commission.

(Exclusive Service The Survey Press Bureau.)

"If a city cannot bring its boys to a shower bath, why not bring a shower bath to the boys." That was the reasoning of the Baltimore Public Bath Commission when they planned last spring to "flush the youngsters" as well as the streets. And so on an open lot in a docked residential section near the docks a tent, fourteen by twenty feet was set up. It was divided by muslin into three sections, office and towel room, waiting room and dressing room where on wooden strips ten feet long, clothes hooks were set. There was a substantial wooden floor.

The bathroom proper occupied about eight by twelve feet along the side of the tent and screened from the street by a strip of canvas. Here was erected a rough wooden frame carrying water pipes and four shower heads regulated by a valve within the reach of each bather. The floor of this bathing section had open spaces through which the water drained to the nearby street gutter. The water supply was obtained from the city department which permitted the commissioners to tap the street main.

The entire plant, including rent of two fourteen by twenty feet tents for a month, purchase of lumber for floor, dressing room and shower room, laying of floors, the making of water connections, and all the labor for construction amounted to about \$150. The enhancement for one week, including two men as managers, one in the office and one in the shower room, cost about twenty or twenty-five dollars.

On the first afternoon, seventy-five boys and men used the baths and on the following day 173. This tent bath accommodated about 500 men and boys during the ten or twelve days of its existence. A similar plan could be worked out for three or four summer months in many southern cities.

The Baltimore Bath Commission decided, however, to erect a more substantial "corner-lot" bath and this past spring they have constructed portable showers supplied with hot and cold water. These baths were built on a slender wooden shell covered with galvanized iron. The interior was divided into seven compartments about eight feet long by three and one-half feet wide, each of which was subdivided so that with entire privacy the bather had a small room in which to dress and undress and a second compartment in which to take his shower.

The hot water was obtained from a small coal stove with a water jacket and a fifty gallon tank, all placed in a small lean-to adjoining the main building.

Two of these portable shower baths were built, carried to the crowded sections of the city and set up on vacant corner lots, where they are now in use. The success of the plan was immediate. The prearranged number of warm days amounts to about 400. On two days a week only women and girls are admitted and 350 to 400 avail themselves of the opportunity for a bath. On the women's days matrons are in charge of the houses.

The Baltimore commissioners believe that these baths, whether in tents or galvanized iron houses, will prove of especial service in playgrounds where connection with city water may be made and also in those cities which are not prepared to spend \$35,000 or \$50,000 for permanent indoor baths. These cheaper showers could be maintained sufficiently tight to withstand the colder weather and then at a moderate expense so constructed as to furnish baths all the year round in many places.

The writer will be glad to send plans and building directions to any who may be interested.

## FISH AND GAME LAWS

Measures Passed by the General Assembly

Making a close season throughout the state for lake trout from July 1 to March 31.

Making a close season for alewives from June 1 to March 1.

Prohibiting the intentional taking of striped bass less than twelve inches in length.

Making a close season for wood-ducks from April 1, 1900, to August 31, 1901.

Providing a penalty for trapping with scent or scented bait.

Raising the fee for issuing a hunting license from 10 to 25 cents.

Making a close season for shad from June 11 to April 30.

Permitting owners or lessees of real estate to set traps or snare upon their land.

Permitting the taking of baitfish in Bantam Lake.

Prohibiting the sale of brook trout taken from the waters of this state except as prescribed in Section 3142 of the General Statutes.

Making a close season for otter from April 1 to October 31.

Allowing the taking of smelt with hook and line in the waters of Norwalk harbor.

No person shall fish with more than ten lines in any pond in the town of Kent, or take more than ten fish in any one day between December 1 and March 1.

Authorizing the fish and game commissioners to establish game preserves without limitations as to time or acreage.

Limiting the number of quail to be taken by any person to five in one day and thirty-six in a year.

Making a close season for Hungarian partridge to October 1, 1910.

Repealing the provision for an officer's fee of \$30 for fish and game arrests.

Prohibiting firing at wild fowl from a motor boat or any floating device used to conceal the hunter more than fifty feet from shore.

Substituting four and one-eighths inches long along the back for nine inches total length as the legal length for lobsters, and limiting their taking to citizens of this state.

Providing for a map of the Westport shellfish grounds.

Establishing fees for the filing of applications for shellfish franchises.

Causing the name of the owner to be placed on natural oyster beds markers.

Prohibiting the use of nets and seines in Long Island Sound waters in Stamford, Danbury and Greenwich, except in fishing for killifish, shiners, shrimps or menhaden.

Giving town selectmen the right to prohibit the killing of trap animals in any town on petition of twenty electors.

Establishing fishing limits in the Saratoga river.

Making a close season for wild hares and rabbits from January 15 to September 30 inclusive, and prohibiting taking except with dog and ferret between December 1 and January 15.

Prohibiting the taking of shellfish or eels in Sherwood's Mill Pond in Westport.

Causing the new hunters' license law to take effect September 1.

Fixing the fee of special officers in the prosecution of violation of the fish and game laws at \$10.

**CASITORIA.**  
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**FIREWORKS DISPLAY**

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For tonight at Steeplechase Island, Captain Boyton has arranged for a complete change of program for the weekly display of fireworks. Many novelties in aerial pyrotechnics and set pieces will be provided and the fireworks will be among the best ever seen at the island. Tonight and tomorrow the final performances of The Great Calvert will be presented and these three performances provide the last chance to see this thrilling aerial act. Tomorrow afternoon the Orators will play an exhibition baseball game with the South Ends, the strongest amateur team in the city and an interesting game is assured. But a short time remains for the enjoyment of the fine bathing facilities at Steeplechase for the season is near an end. When the tide is not high the pool, through which salt water is constantly pumped, provides the same features of surf bathing.

**TRY A WEBER DINNER**

**TOMORROW AT STEEPLCHASE**

Your wife or family is entitled to at least one shore dinner in the season and the time to provide it is limited, which suggests a trip to Steeplechase Island tomorrow where the very best in sea food, fresh vegetables, etc., that go to make up such a feast can be had in first quality, cooked by an expert and properly served. The shore dinner season is the summer time and Weber's pavilion at Steeplechase Island is the most delightful spot to get the full enjoyment of such a repast. Plan to dine there tomorrow and you are certain of going away entirely satisfied with your dinner.

**\$2.50**

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Club Breakfast .....\$4.00 up

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New Special Scenery.

All the Special People Engaged for Last Week Retained

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**NOTICE**

The Undersigned, Registrars of Voters, in and for the Town of Stratford, hereby give notice:

That they will be in session at the Town Hall, in said Stratford, Monday, the 8th day of September, from 9 A. M. till 5 P. M. for the purpose of correcting and revising the Voting List.

Thursday, the 16th day of September, from 9 A. M. to 5 P. M. for the purpose of receiving the applications of those who desire to be made Voters for the Town Election, Monday, October 4th.

Applications will be received by either Registrar previous to the 16th. Dated at Stratford, August 28th, 1901.

GEO. S. PRATT, P. L. HANSON, Registrars.

L 27 b°

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